

NEWS RELEASE

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Illinois Metros See Minimal Job Growth; Seven Metro Areas Lose Jobs

Unemployment Rates Continue Downward Trend

Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates

Metropolitan Area	October 2015	October 2014	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington	4.8%	5.0%	-0.2
Carbondale-Marion	6.1%	6.1%	0.0
Champaign-Urbana	5.1%	5.3%	-0.2
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights	5.0%	6.1%	-1.1
Danville	6.9%	7.3%	-0.4
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island, IA-IL	5.6%	5.8%	-0.2
Decatur	6.8%	7.2%	-0.4
Elgin	5.4%	5.7%	-0.3
Kankakee	6.4%	6.7%	-0.3
Lake-Kenosha, IL-WI	5.0%	5.4%	-0.4
Peoria	6.6%	6.2%	0.4
Rockford	6.8%	7.0%	-0.2
Springfield	5.1%	5.4%	-0.3
St. Louis (IL-Section)	5.9%	6.3%	-0.4
Illinois Statewide	5.3%	6.0%	-0.7

* Data subject to revision.

CHICAGO – Unemployment rates in Illinois fell in 12 metro areas, increased in one and remained the same in one. Seven metro areas across the state saw job loss compared to a year ago, according to preliminary data released today by the Illinois Department of Employment Security (IDES) and the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Not seasonally adjusted data compares October 2015 with October 2014.

Illinois businesses lost jobs in seven metro areas including the Quad Cities (-2.1 percent, -3,900), Carbondale-Marion (-1.6 percent, -900), and Peoria (-1.0 percent, -1,800). Illinois businesses added jobs in six metros, in which the largest increases were seen in: Danville (+1.7 percent, +500), Elgin (+1.6 percent, +4,200), and Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division (+1.4 percent or +49,600). The industry sectors recording job growth in the majority of metros were: Retail Trade (nine of 14), Leisure and Hospitality (nine of 14), Transportation, Warehousing and Public Utilities (eight of 14), and Education and Health Services (eight of 14).

“We are thankful for every single job we have gained since the national recovery began in July 2009,” IDES Director Jeff Mays said. “However, at Thanksgiving 2015, too few Illinois residents are feeling this turnaround.”

The not seasonally adjusted Illinois rate was 5.3 percent in October 2015 and stood at 12.2 percent at its peak in this economic cycle in January 2010. Nationally, the not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate was 4.8 percent in October and 10.6 percent in January 2010 at its peak. The unemployment rate identifies those who are out of work and looking for work, and is not tied to collecting unemployment insurance benefits.

Total Nonfarm Jobs (Not Seasonally Adjusted) – October 2015

Metropolitan Area	October 2015*	October 2014**	Over-the-Year Change
Bloomington MSA	96,200	95,500	700
Carbondale-Marion MSA	54,900	55,800	-900
Champaign-Urbana MSA	111,500	110,400	1,100
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights Metro Division	3,668,400	3,618,800	49,600
Danville MSA	29,700	29,200	500
Davenport-Moline-Rock Island MSA	180,900	184,800	-3,900
Decatur MSA	51,100	51,300	-200
Elgin Metro Division	259,500	255,300	4,200
Kankakee MSA	45,600	45,600	0
Lake-County-Kenosha County Metro Division	402,800	406,500	-3,700
Peoria MSA	178,600	180,400	-1,800
Rockford MSA	151,900	152,500	-600
Springfield MSA	113,500	112,300	1,200
Illinois Section of St. Louis MSA	231,300	232,600	-1,300
Illinois Statewide	5,990,400	5,949,300	41,100

*Preliminary **Revised

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**Not Seasonally Adjusted Unemployment Rates
(percent) for Local Counties and Areas**

Labor Market Area	Oct-15	Oct-14	Over-the-Year Change
Chicago-Naperville-Elgin IL-IN-WI MSA	5.1%	6.0%	-0.9
Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, IL Metro Division			
Cook County	5.3%	6.4%	-1.1
DuPage County	4.0%	4.9%	-0.9
Grundy County	5.3%	6.3%	-1.0
Kendall County	4.2%	5.3%	-1.1
McHenry County	4.3%	5.3%	-1.0
Will County	4.9%	6.1%	-1.2
Elgin, IL Metro Division			
DeKalb County	5.3%	5.6%	-0.3
Kane County	5.4%	5.8%	-0.4
Lake & Kenosha Counties, IL-WI Metro Division			
Lake County	5.1%	5.5%	-0.4
Cities (with total population of at least 100,000) *			
Aurora City	5.2%	5.7%	-0.5
Chicago City	5.6%	6.8%	-1.2
Elgin City	5.7%	6.7%	-1.0
Joliet City	5.7%	7.1%	-1.4
Naperville City	3.9%	5.0%	-1.1

* Unemployment rates for cities with total population of 25,000 or more can be found at www.ides.illinois.gov/LMI/Pages/Current_Monthly_Unemployment_Rates.aspx

Lake & Kenosha Counties, IL-WI Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.0 percent in October 2015 from 5.4 percent in October 2014. The last time the October rate was equal to or lower was in 2007 when it was 4.4 percent. For the month of October 2015, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 22,700.

Total nonfarm employment decreased -3,700 compared to October 2015. Educational and Health Services (+600), Manufacturing (+600), Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (+300), Financial Activities (+200), and Wholesale Trade (+100) reported payroll gains. The Professional-Business Services (-3,200) and Government (-1,000) sectors recorded the largest employment decline compared to one year ago.

Note:

- Monthly 2014 unemployment rates and total non-farm jobs for Illinois metro areas were revised in February 2015, as required by the U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). Comments and tables distributed for prior metro area news releases should be discarded as any records or historical analysis previously cited may no longer be valid.

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Chicago-Naperville-Arlington Heights, IL Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.0 percent in October 2015 from 6.1 percent in October 2014. The last time the October rate was equal to or lower was in 2007 when it was 4.7 percent. For the month of October 2015, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 188,400.

Total nonfarm employment increased +49,600 compared to October 2014. Professional-Business Services (+19,500), Educational and Health Services (+12,800), Government (+6,400), and Construction (+6,000) reported the largest payroll gains. Manufacturing (-2,600), Financial Activities (-2,300), and Transportation-Warehousing-Utilities (-1,100) sectors recorded employment declines compared to one year ago.

Elgin, IL Metro Division

The not seasonally adjusted unemployment rate decreased to 5.4 percent in October 2015 from 5.7 percent in October 2014. The last time the October rate was equal to or lower was in 2007 when it was 4.1 percent. For the month of October 2015, the estimated number of unemployed people in the labor force was 17,600.

Total nonfarm employment increased +4,200 compared to October 2014. Professional-Business Services (+1,600), Leisure-Hospitality (+1,100), Wholesale Trade (+900), and Retail Trade (+800) reported the largest payroll gains. The Government (-700) and Manufacturing (-300) sectors recorded the largest employment declines compared to one year ago.